Message Text

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SHUM AG

SUBJECT: ALGERIA: POSSIBLE HUMAN RIGHTS VIOLATION - LAHLOU HADJI

- 1. DESK OFFICER RECEIVED CALL JANUARY 5 FROM DR. JOSEPH TOMITA REQUESTING DEPARTMENT ASSISTANCE IN DETERMINING CIRCUMSTANCES OF REPORTED THREATS AGAINST LAHLOU HADJI, CHEF DE LABORATOIRE, DEPARTMENT IMMUNO-CHEMISTRY, PASTEUR INSTITUTE, ALGIERS. TOMITA SAID HE IS EMPLOYED BY CANCER RESEARCH LABORATORY, ABBOT LABORATORY, NORTH CHICAGO, ILL. 60064 (TEL. 313-688-8856). HE INFORMED DEPARTMENT OFFICER THAT HADJI HAD BEEN ONE OF HIS GRADUATE STUDENTS AT STANFORD UNIVERSITY IN 1966 BEFORE RETURNING TO ALGERIA TO ASSUME POSITION AT PASTEUR INSTITUTE. TOMITA ALSO SAID HADJI HAS AMERICAN CITIZEN WIFE MARIE AND SON ERIC LIVING IN LOS ANGELES, BUT HE BELIEVED THERE WERE MARITAL PROBLEMS. WIFE'S CURRENT ADDRESS UNKNOWN.
- 2. IN APRIL 1977 HADJI ATTENDED ANNUAL MEETING OF FEDERA-LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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TION OF EXPERIEMENTAL BILOLOGY SOCIETIES HELD IN CHICAGO. AT THIS TIME HADJI INDICATED TO TOMITA THAT HE WAS UNDER SURVEILLANCE. HADJI INTENDED TO "DEFECT" AND IN FACT DID

OVERSTAY HIS AUTHORIZED VISIT TO U.S., BUT THEN RETURNED TO ALGERIA OUT OF CONCERN FOR WELFARE OF HIS MOTHER AND BROTHER.

- 3. IN LETTER DATED DECEMBER 19 AND MAILED FROMMARSEILLES, TOMITA SAID HADJI INFORMED HIM THAT HE WANTED TO PRESENT THESIS FOR PH.D. DEGREE AND TAKE YEAR OF LEAVE IN PARIS, BUT DIRECTOR OF PASTEUR INSTITUTE HAD TOLD HIM THAT HE WOULD BE SHOT IF HE TRIED TO LEAVE ALGERIA. HADJI HAS ALSO INDICATED THAT HE IS NOT RECEIVING SUBSCRIPTIONS TO JOURNALS, HIS HOUSE HAS BEEN SEARCHED, AND HIS PASSPORT TAKEN FROM HIM. FURTHERMORE, HE HAS CLAIMED THAT HE HAS BEEN DENIED ACCESS TO MEDICAL DOCTORS FOR PERSONAL TREATMENT AND PROFESSIONAL CONSULTATIONS.
- 4. DR. TOMITA SUGGESTED DEPARTMENT CONTACT DR. GEORGE
 FEIGEN, PROFESSOR OF PHYSIOLOGY, STANFORD UNIVERSITY,
 STANFORD, CALIFORNIA 95305 (TEL. 415/497-2432) FOR
 ADDITIONAL INFORMATION. ACCORDING TO FEIGEN'S RECORDS,
 HADJI WAS BORN [Sensitive Information Removed Per NARA 05 DEC 2014], IN ALGIERS. HE CAME TO
 U.S. AS STUDENT, APPARENTLY WITH USG FINANCIAL SUPPORT,
 AND OBTAINED BA DEGREE AT UCLA IN 1966 FOLLOWED BY
 GRADUATE STUDY AND RESEARCH WORK AT STANFORD UNDER FEIGEN
 FROM 1966 UNTIL HIS RETURN TO ALGERIA IN 1972 WITHOUT
 HIS FAMILY. AFTER SEEING HADJI AT PROFESSIONAL MEETING
 IN U.S. IN 1975, FEIGEN RECEIVED LETTER FROM HADJI
 INDICATING HE WAS BEING HARASSED AT PASTEUR INSTITUTE
 (E.G. PEOPLE STEALING HIS SUPPLIES). FEIGEN SAID THAT
 FOLLOWING APRIL 1977 MEETING IN CHICAGO, HADJI WORKED FOR
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SEVERAL WEEKS AT UNIVERSITY OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA LAB, SHIFTED TO A LOS ANGELES LABORATORY FOR ABOUT SIX WEEKS, BECAME DEPRESSED, AND DECIDED TO RETURN TO ALGERIA. DR. FEIGEN DESCRIBED HADJI AS HAVING POTENTIAL TO DO IMPORTANT SCIENTIFIC WORK. WHILE HE WOULD NOT SPECULATE, FEIGEN SUGGESTED THAT HADJI MAY BE SUFFERING FROM PSYCHOLOGICAL PROBLEMS POSSIBLY RELATED TO ALLEGED HARASSMENT.

5. POST IS REQUESTED ON DISCRETE BASIS TO SEEK AND REPORT INFORMATION ON CURRENT CIRCUMSTANCES OF HADJI AND SPECIFY WHAT INFORMATION MAY BE PROVIDED TO TOMITA AND FEIGEN.
CHRISTOPHER

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Sheryl P. Walter	Declassified/Released	US Department of State	EO Systematic Review	20 Mar 2014

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